AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (Currently amended): A method of suppressing a respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) infection in an individual who is at risk of being exposed to RSV, comprising administering a composition to the respiratory tract of said individual by local administration, said composition comprising a polynucleotide comprising an immunostimulatory sequence (ISS) to said individual, wherein the ISS comprises the sequence ~~5' CG 3'~~ 5'-T,C,G-3', wherein the polynucleotide is greater than 6 and less than about 200 nucleotides in length, wherein RSV antigen, an immunostimulatory cytokine, and an adjuvant are not administered in conjunction with administration of said composition, wherein the individual is a human, wherein said composition is administered between 3 days and 14 days before exposure to RSV, and wherein said composition is administered in an amount sufficient to suppress an RSV infection.

Claim 2 (Canceled)

Claim 3 (Currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein the ISS comprises the sequence 5'-purine, purine, C, G, pyrimidine, pyrimidine, C, G-3' ~~or 5' purine, purine, C, G, pyrimidine, pyrimidine, C, C 3'~~.

Claim 4 (Currently amended): The method of claim 3, wherein the ISS comprises a sequence selected from the group consisting of ~~5' AACGTTCC 3',~~ 5'-AACGTTCG-3', ~~5' GACGTTCC 3',~~ and 5'-GACGTTCG-3'.

Claim 5 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the ISS comprises the sequence 5'-TGACTGTGAACGTTCGAGATGA-3' (SEQ ID NO:1).

Claims 6-7 (Canceled)

Claim 8 (Previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein administration is to a lung.

Claim 9 (Previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein administration is to the nasal passages.

Claim 10 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the suppression comprises a reduction of RSV titer in a biological sample from said individual.

Claims 11-15 (canceled)

Claim 16 (Previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the polynucleotide comprises a phosphate backbone modification.

Claim 17 (Previously presented): The method of claim 1 wherein said composition comprises a ISS-containing polynucleotide and a pharmaceutically-acceptable excipient and wherein said composition excludes immunoregulatory agents and immunostimulatory cytokines.

Claim 18 (Previously presented): The method of claim 1 wherein suppression of RSV infection is measured by a reduction of viral titer of RSV.